7th December 1954]

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" In order to overcome the irregularities pointed out by the hon. Member, we experimented with the system we adopted at the last District Board elections. But this system is also defective in certain respects because voters are not voting properly, with the result a considerable number of votes have become invalid. We will examine the whole position and try to arrive at a solution which will avoid all the irregularities pointed out by hon. Members and at the same time enable voters to vote properly."

Sri N. RAMAKRISHNA AYYAR :—" What has been the educative value of this type of voting? "

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" As far as the educative value is concerned, one lesson that we have learnt is that our voters do not know how to vote whether it is the existing system of voting or voting with symbols. We are considering the question as to how the system could be made simpler and better."

Sri V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" One thing has become very clear from the present questions and that is, there should be a review of the present system and some changes should be introduced. Since administrative memory may be very short and a little dim also and since all the material now available may not be available at the time when the question is taken up for thorough examination, will the Government give an assurance that they will give necessary instructions to the officers concerned to collect all the data available in this connection so that the material may be useful at the time the question is reviewed? "

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I may tell the hon. Member that instructions have already been issued."

Sri S. RAMALINGAM :—" புதிய முறையில் வோட்டு செய்யவேண்டு மென்ற சட்டம் சென்ற ஜில்லாபோர்டு தேர்தல் ஆரம்பிப்பதற்கு ஒரு சில நாட்களுக்கு முன்புதான் நிறைவேற்றப்பட்டது. அதேபோல் சர்க்கார் இந்த விஷயத்தை பரிசீலிக்கச்செய்து மாற்றுவதற்கான ஏற்பாடுகள் செய்வதற்குமுன் அடுத்த ஜில்லா போர்டு தேர்தலே வந்துவிடும்போலிருக் கிறது. ஆகையால் இதை உடனடியாகப் பரிசீலனை செய்வதற்கு முயற்சி எடுப்பார்களா ? " 11-10 a.m.

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" The hon. Member's memory is a little bit short. This was not introduced just before the District Board elections. This system was there even during elections to major panchayats. There was, therefore, nothing new introduced in the system for District Board elections alone."

Development of the Malnad area.

* 88 [a] *Q.*—Sri K. C. GOPALAN UNNI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) the area included in the Malnad Development Scheme;

[a] Postponed from the list of questions for 6th December 1954.

(*b*) whether any portion of the cost of the scheme will be borne by the Central Government; and

(*c*) if so, what it is?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) There is no single scheme called Malnad Development Scheme. The area that comprises Malnad is given in the statement[a] placed on the table of the House.

" (*b*) & (*c*) This does not arise."

SRI K. C. GOPALAN UNNI :—" I am informed by the Collector of Malabar that he has submitted a scheme for the development of the Attapadi Valley, which is included in the Malnad scheme, to the Government through the Board of Revenue, and that orders thereon are awaited. At the same time, he has also pointed out all such schemes are held up for want of roads. Will the Government give a categorical assurance that these proposals will be favourably considered and colonization work carried on as expeditiously as possible? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I would request the hon. Member to put a separate question."

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" Some of the villages in Malabar where conditions are similar to those in the villages mentioned in the statement placed on the table of the House are not included in the Malnad scheme. May I know the basis on which villages are selected for inclusion in the Malnad scheme? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" In Malabar district, the Malnad area lies in the hilly and forest lands in the taluks of Kurumbranad, Ernad, Walluvanad, Palghat, Wynaad, Chirakkal and Kottayam, with an extent of 1,167,100 acres. Regarding other areas, they will come under other development schemes."

SRI K. MADHAVAN NAMBIAR :—" Will the Government be pleased to consult the M.L.As. from Malabar before introducing the scheme? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Hon. Members of the Legislature are welcome to offer their views to the Government."

SRI T. ANANTA PAI :—" In reply to a question of mine on a previous occasion the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture said that in the Malnad area of South Kanara, there was 175,000 acres of cultivable land belonging to the Government. Will the Government start some land colonization schemes to bring at least a part of that area under cultivation? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I would like to have notice."

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[a] **Printed as Appendix on pages 388–390 infra.**

7th December 1954]

SRI KUNHI MOHAMED SHAFEE :—" As far as Ernad and Walluvanad taluks are concerned, the statement does not give the names of villages they comprise neither does it give their population. May I know whether this is due to the fact that the officers who have submitted the reports do not have sufficient information on the question? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" If I am unable to give the names of the villages that comprise this area, it is for want of time. If the hon. Member puts a separate question, I would have a list containing the names of villages and their population printed and placed on the table of the House."

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" Since development of any area including Malnad is not possible in the absence of extensive credit facilities, will the Government lay more emphasis on providing credit facilities through co-operative credit societies and grant of *takkavi* loans to cultivators living in such areas? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" That is a general question and that will certainly be taken into consideration when we proceed to implement any programme that is drawn up."

SRI C. H. KANARAN :—" There are many villages which come under the Malnad scheme and also under other development schemes. How is the programme to be co-ordinated? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I do not know what exactly the hon. Member wants. If he puts a separate question, I will furnish the answer."

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" The Hon. the Minister said that some villages were included in the Malnad scheme and some others were included in some other schemes. May I know from him whether the villages which are not included in the Malnad scheme but which are contiguous to the villages included in the scheme and where conditions are almost similar to those obtaining in the scheme area, will be included therein? If not, may I know the basis on which the choice of villages is made for inclusion in the scheme? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I would like to have notice to explain the basis of selection of the villages."

SRI Y. MANJAYA SHETTY :—" May I know whether the Government have taken up any scheme for the development of cottage industries in the Malnad area of South Kanara district as recommended by the Forest Grievances Enquiry Committee appointed by the Government some years ago? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The recommendations of the Forest Grievances Enquiry Committee are under the consideration of the Government."

[7th December 1954

SRI K. VENKATRAMANA GOWDA :—" The Minister has said that there is nothing like a ' Malnad Development Scheme '. May I know whether the Minister is aware of the special problems of Malnad and whether they are going to receive the attention of the Government? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I have nowhere stated that there is nothing like a ' Malnad Development Scheme '. Therefore, the other part of the question does not arise."

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" This is a most important question and I would request you, Sir, to permit a half-hour debate on this."

MR. SPEAKER :—" I allowed one half-hour debate yesterday and it is yet to take place."

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" It may be permitted in this sitting. We can have it day-after-tomorrow."

MR. SPEAKER :—" I cannot fix the date now."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Even if you permit a half-hour debate now, I shall not be able to furnish any more information on this subject in the next two or three or even seven days."

MR. SPEAKER :—" I shall consider the request of the hon. Member. Questions Nos. 91 to 93 may be answered together."

Amendments to the Constitution.

* 91 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government were invited by the General Secretary, All-India Congress Committee or by the Central Government to give their opinion on amendments to the Constitution; and

(*b*) if so, whether any reply was given?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) Yes. Communications on the subject were received by the Chief Minister from the General Secretary of the All-India Congress Committee and from the Prime Minister of India.

" (*b*) It will not be in the public interest to disclose the information as it is of a confidential nature."

* 92 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the State Government have received the proposals of the Union Government for amending the Constitution; and

(*b*) if so, the Articles to be amended?